

# Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS



## FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

It was a pretty good ARRL DX phone contest this month. I made 153 contacts which isn't a lot compared to the big guns but it was a lot of fun, especially when they were made without using a beam. The exchange for DX stations is signal report and the power they are using. I had to have CO8LY (Cuba) repeat the power report because I couldn't believe he was using 5 watts. Japan was very strong Saturday night on 40 meters. Fifteen meters was also very good to the far east.

Be sure to attend the this month's meeting. John, N6XN and Ron, W6BIS from Napa will discuss their W6CO linked repeater system. This system consists of 5 repeaters located in Napa valley for the purpose of enhancing emergency communications.

The 441.800 repeater is part of the Echolink system with a node number of 70359. Using this system would allow any ham to access other nodes around the world.

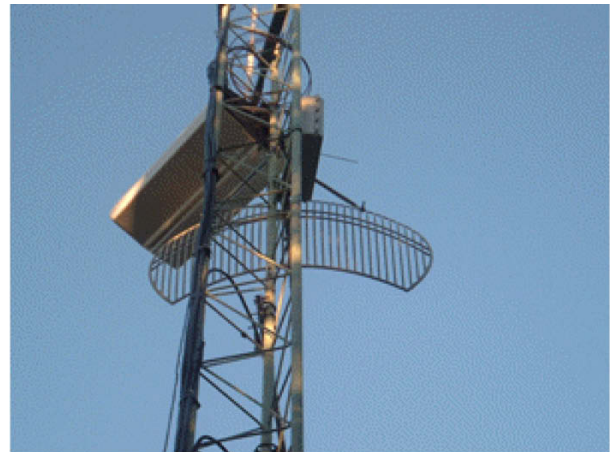
They can access the 440.050 mhz repeater on Mt. Veeder which is D-Star compatible.

There is also a Remote Base that can link to our own AA6GV repeater.

Hamfest coming up on May 1st. so plan on helping out.

See you at the meeting at the Sonoma PD and remember that ham radio is all about communicating.

73, Jim K6UUW



The Napa repeater group antennas

### CONTEST CALENDAR

March 13-14 North American Sprint (RTTY)  
March 20-21 Oklahoma QSO and North Dakota QSO parties  
March 20-22 Virginia QSO party  
April 4-5 Montana and Missouri QSO parties  
April 18-19 Michigan QSO party

### VOMARC TOUR OF INTELSAT, NAPA —March 30, 2010

**Be at facility 10:15am, Tour starts at 10:30am**

This is the facility with all the really big SAT ELITE DISH'S by the Butler bridge in south Napa. The official address is: 961 Anselmo Court.

A special tour of this facility has been arranged for any and all VOMARC members.

**All I need is your name with middle initial, address city and state and the country of your citizenship and your Ham Call Sign.**

Our hostess, Linda will have a tour guide that will give us an extra tour and more of some of the technical aspects of the facility because of Ham Radio status.

If the "touring group" is interested we can finish the tour around noon and adjourn to "Jonesy's Steak House" at the Napa Airport. I understand some of the staff has purchased Jonesy's and brought back some of the old menu items.

I might suggest that we meet in back of the Black Bear Restaurant parking lot and car pool.

If you are interested please send me an email: [K6KLL@aol.com](mailto:K6KLL@aol.com)

Happy touring, Alan

## **Minutes February 17, 2010**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Jim K6UUW at the City of Sonoma EOC,

There were 18 members in attendance.

Jim introduced Peter Gray, a freshman at the High School. He is a new ham and attended our last class.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the January meeting were approved as distributed. (M/S/C Darrel/Ken/unanimous)

**Treasurer's Report:** We have about \$2,238 in the checking account and about \$230 in cash.

**ACS:** Ken N6KM reminded us that there is an updated SOP and Frequency chart (the Pink Sheet). He encourages us to have a copy in each vehicle and with each radio. We should be ready for a call-out drill.

Jim K6UUW wants all of us to be checked out on all the radios we use. Next Monday he will open the station on Center Street.

Ken will be doing a presentation of ACS for the Sonoma Disaster Council on March 11 at 3:30. He will call on volunteers if he needs help.

**Old Business:**

There will be a VE Session on Saturday, February 20 at McDougall hall.

We are recognized as a Special Service Club on the ARRL Web site.

We need Net control stations for July and August.

The Hamfest flyer has been updated. There will be a group going to Livermore the 1st Sunday in April to distribute fliers and promote our Hamfest.

The March meeting will also be here in the City of Sonoma EOC. We will go back to McDougall hall in April. The program for the March meeting will a presentation by SARS, the Silverado Repeater Society who will describe their linked repeater system.

We are also planning a field trip to the Intel Sat station by Butler Bridge in Napa. Tours area available Monday through Thursday at 10:30 am. Allan K6KLL will pick 3 dates and advise us of the choices.

Darrel brought some stuff that was left over from the Big Rumble disaster drill and gave it away.

**New Business:** Hamfest: Ed W6EJis looking for a kitchen crew for Hamfest. He needs 2 shifts of 4/5 persons each, 7-9am and 9-11am. Rachel KI6DHG, Dick KF6FZM and Declan KA2QQO signed up. (The April meeting will be spent finalizing plans for this event.)

Darrel asked for a PR Committee. Jim, Dave and Eileen will get together and email nearby clubs. Members are encouraged to invite members of other groups they attend and to announce it on other nets they check in to.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8pm. For the program, Batteries 101A, Mike WB6TMH demonstrated battery testing software from the West Mountain Radio Club, Rachel brought batteries donated by her brother Simon KB6CLV's business. These were given to members who were interested. Darrel WD6BOR, with assistance of other members, made Anderson power-pole connectors for the batteries and distributed them also.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen KG6QNT

## Public Service Opportunities for 2010

2010 is here and the public service events are starting to stack up. It seems like everyone is looking for radio amateurs to help out with events. This is a great opportunity to introduce other people to the hobby and practice our skills as radio operators. Below is a list of events that are coming up sponsored by several of the local radio clubs. Take a look at the events and see what can fit in your schedule. I hope to see you out at the events.

—Dave KD6FIL

### Upcoming Events for VOMARC in 2010

Hamfest,	May 1, 2010
Hit the Road Jack,	June 6, 2010
Field Day	June 26 – 27, 2010
4th of July Parade in Sonoma	July 4, 2010
Vintage Festival in Sonoma (TBC)	September 25, 2010

### Public Service Events for 2010 from the Sonoma County Radio Amateurs

as of 18 February 2010

Contact: [k6xlt@sonic.net](mailto:k6xlt@sonic.net)

Lake Sonoma 50 (50 mile foot race)	27 March	0645-1800
Spring Hill Time Road Race (TBC)	11 April (Sun)	TBD
MS Walk (TBC)	25 April (Sun)	0800-1100
Wine Country Century	1 May	0630-1800
Human Race	8 May	0800-1100
Tour of California	17 May (Mon)	1200-1700
Event TBD	12-13 June	
Terrible Two	19 June	0530-2300
Waves to Wine	25-26 September	0700-1800
Levi's Gran Fondo	9 October	0700-1800

### Mendocino County ARC

Mendocino Monster (bike tour)

6 June

0700-1700

### Public Service Events from the Marin ARS—Contact Randy Jenkins KA6BQF,

[ka6bqf@arri.net](mailto:ka6bqf@arri.net)

Ridge to Bridge	Saturday, April 10 - -	5AM - 3 PM
Miwok 100K	Saturday, May 1	5AM - 10 PM
The Relay	Saturday May 1 & Sunday May 2	3 PM - 6 AM
The Human Race	Saturday, May 8	7:30 AM - 10:30 AM
The Dipsea	Sunday, June 13	7:00 AM - 2:00 PM
The Double Dipsea	Saturday, June 26	8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Marin Century/ Mt. Tam DC Ride	Saturday, August 7	4:30 AM - 11:00 PM
Holstein 100 Ride	Saturday, August 21	6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Peak Hike	Sunday, September 2	8:00 AM - 5 PM
Dolphin Club Escape from Alcatraz	Saturday, October 02	10 AM- 5PM

## 2010 ACS Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
MARCH	RACHEL	KI6DHG
APRIL	MARTY	KI6RTP
MAY	AL	KI6LNK
JUNE	EILEEN	KG6QNT
JULY	CRAIG	KF6QZP
AUGUST	GEORGE	K6ITE
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOMEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

## 2010 VOMARC Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
MARCH	MARTY	KI6RTP
APRIL	ED	W1EJ
MAY	DAVE	KD6FIL
JUNE	JOAN	W6WXU
JULY		
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER	???	KJ6DQA
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOMEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

### Radio Club de Chile Lists Emergency Frequencies, E-mail Address (Mar 6, 2010)

Radio Club de Chile ([RCCH](#)) President Dr Galdino Besomi, CE3PG, reports that the situation in Chile is "very complex" as the country suffers aftershocks registering 6.0 or higher after the 8.8 magnitude earthquake that hit Chile on February 27. "Red Chilena Nor Austral de Servicio ([RECNA](#)) and RCCH networks are working in coordination with the Army of Chile, handling information about people localization, condition of roads and support for the emergency administration," IARU Region 2 (Area G) Emergency Coordinator Jorge Sierra, LU1AS, told he ARRL. He has asked the amateur community to keep the following frequencies free from non-essential, emergency traffic: 14.200, 7.050, 7.095 and 3.738 MHz. "The RCCH has set up an [e-mail address](#) where people can request information concerning people affected by the earthquakes

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

## THE VOMARC WIRELESS VOLUME 14 EDITION 3

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon  
Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF  
Honorary President in Perpetuity

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW – President, Training Officer

Dave Dammuller KD6FIL — Vice-President,

Joan Brady, W6WXU – Secretary

Marty Nemiroff, KI6RTP – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – ACS Unit Leader

Joel Nadler, NN6J – VE Liaison

Jim Hill, K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmeistress, Editor

*Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after  
benefits of membership in VOMARC—S. Marler.*

**CLUB MEETINGS** are held on the third Wednesday of each month at McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge or the Sonoma Fire Station on 2<sup>nd</sup> St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

**WEB PAGE:** <http://www.vomarc.org/>

**Nets** are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

**ACS** holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

**PACKET STATION INFO:** The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

**CLUB BREAKFASTS** are held on the first Saturday of each month at Palms Grill (formerly Issa's) Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

**Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.**

c/o Sonoma Police Department  
175 First Street West  
Sonoma, CA 95476

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**THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS MARCH 17, 2010 AT 7:30PM AT THE CITY OF SONOMA EOC  
AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W IN SONOMA  
SEE YOU THERE.**

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#### **VOMARC MEMBERSHIP**

**VOMARC 2010**    Membership Dues:   \$15/year individual;      \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).  
QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ APT: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

VOMARC: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Complimentary with Class--Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Membership Moment, From the Database Queen**

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Marty KI6RTP, 20829 Via Colombard, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at [Eileen@vom.com](mailto:Eileen@vom.com). Your check should be made payable to:  
**VOMARC.**